

able of the vineyard beautifully exemplifies the forbearance and long suffering of God thru the intercession of our merciful Savior.

The church needs more of the love of friendship implanted in its bosom. True friendship is a pearl of priceless value, should be sought for all and is in its application a medium of great good, for in many instances has a wayward soul been brought to its senses by open hearted friendship of a superior in Christ.

True friendship is one of the branches of the root of Christ's deep soul-love in the heart and therefore can only be found in those who love the souls of those surrounding them to such an extent that they crave for their release and peace.

We thank God for our true friends. Would to God there were more Davids and Jonathan in the world, and that the spirit of faithful Naomi would live in more hearts to bless the world with loyalty and true friendship. "Whoso beareth the Lord shall direct his friendship aright; for as he is, so shall his neighbors be."

What the church most needs is Christians who have the armor of courage and wisdom from God, courage to say no to all evil and take a stand for Christ, being rooted and grounded in love, putting on the whole armor of God, that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil, and having our feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace, above all, taking the shield of faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench all the fiery darts of the wicked. Praying always with all prayer and supplication to the Spirit. Courage, even Christian courage, commands respect from friends and foes.

The three Hebrew children, who refused to bow down to the golden image, and Daniel in the den of lions are honored by the whole world today.

The apostle Paul, entering upon a voyage which he knew would end in shipwreck and disaster, was a Christian hero. Yet the command, "Be of good courage," is to us today, as well as to ancient Israel. To cultivate this grace, we need only to remember that he whom we are striving to imitate, has all power, and that by obeying him, we shall surely conquer.

The church needs power. Not the gold but the salt is the emblem of its life. Its energy must be clearly felt in opposing every evil and supporting every good cause. It is when the church embodies the strongest moral force in the community that it most commands the surrender of thoughtful men.

She needs power to convince men of the guilt of sin, and to enable them to throw off the chains of evil habit and selfish motive, and to turn the tide of low ideals and unworthy purposes into nobler and more Christly channels.

Another of the foundation stones of the church militant is the church in the home. Outside it has many names—here it has but one—Christ's.

From the family altar where humble, true hearts bow in adoration and supplication,

we believe more acceptable incense comes up before him, than from many gilded altars in lofty cathedrals. Happy are the children who have memories of such an altar. The heritage is better than thousands of gold and silver.

The church in the home is more helpful than all others, for the daily life speaks louder than the pulpit, and under divine guidance does grand service for God and humanity.

Gravelton, Ind.

The Mission Field

Washington City Echoes

We haven't much special news to fill our column in the EVANGELIST this week, but we always like to have our mission represented in our good little church paper to let the readers know that by the grace of God we are still pushing the work, and are progressing very nicely.

We report at this writing one more accession from the German Baptists. A fine young lady who desired liberty of mind to work out her own salvation, and had become tired of the prescribed form of dress enforced by that church, and convinced of its being made unscripturally mandatory; thereby placing the commandments of men on a level with the commandments of God.

When we let the adorning of our bodies engross our minds, then it is we neglect the adorning of our hearts, and thereby grow weaker spiritually. God so plainly tells us that our minds should be monopolized in the adorning of our hearts—then we should use our individual common sense in adorning our bodies as in other similar temporal matters.

God works by love, not by force, and when we undertake to exercise compulsion in this respect we simply arouse carnal feelings that kill the God like spirit. We hope the time is not far distant when there will be a great reform in this respect, and that love instead of force shall be manifested. God says we shall not be one above another, but all as babes in Christ. This banishes our power of excommunication; i. e., to attempt to root out the tares which God so plainly forbids his disciples to do. Would to God that all be guided by their convictions of right regardless of anything man may say; then it would be said of them as of Mary, "She hath done the best she could."

The time of year has now come when we cannot expect other than small attendance a good deal of the time, as it is the case with all other churches in the city. During the warm summer months, the people after working all day during the week and often too hot to rest well at night, become tired and wearied of the hot city, and on Sunday most of them seek refuge in the country and down the river to regain.

We think it is well for those whose business or employment confine them to the city to seek the refreshing breeze of the country's pure air whenever they can; but surely we

should not neglect our religious duties to God for this purpose.

What we need is a provision for those Christians who wish to seek the country on the Sabbath day to recuperate: i. e., we should have near all our cities religious resorts in the country and on the river banks, where all good-meaning people could go and enjoy the day in accordance with God's will, aside from the satanic-meaning people who assemble at nearly all other resorts.

This is one instance in which we think the enemy has the advantage of us. He has his soul-destructive institutions implanted on the most beautiful sites and outlooks surrounding the city, and looks out over the densely populated city to beckon to the people who are suffering from the heat to come to his institution and drink in the cool refreshing country breeze. As an extra inducement he says, "We have all kinds of refreshing drinks that will soothe your nerves and make you feel good; but if you don't desire intoxicants come anyhow for we have plenty of soft drinks."

If you desire intoxicants and we are not allowed to sell them on the grounds, come right along; we have floating saloons on the lake or bay that you can easily reach with row boats—else some "speak easies not far distant." We see the enemy makes every provision necessary to try to attract all classes.

We don't say that all the resorts are like this, but a great many are. Seeing all this why should we as a Christian people not institute religious resorts to combat this great work of soul-destruction.

We are glad to say that one of such resorts has been established near our city on the banks of the Potomac. Quite a large tract of land has been purchased, and it will also be used as an asylum for the poor and needy of the city. An able and experienced Christian worker is at the head of it, and we feel sure it will prove a grand success.

R. W. CASSADY.

The Sunday School

WHAT SHOULD BE ACCOMPLISHED BY THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

S. L. BUCK.

This, indeed, is the essential inquiry; for, without a clear understanding as to what we wish to accomplish, there can be no well defined method of attaining any end at all. This question is, really, the decisive test of the value of the Sunday school and underlies all questions as to means or methods.

A knowledge of the end to be attained serves as a guide in practice. It not only determines the best means to be employed, but guides in their use. The more clearly the end is seen, the greater the inspiring interest, and the more skillful the effort. This is true in the simplest art, as well as in the most complicated business transaction. It is not only true as a general principle, but it equally applies to each exercise of the day-